

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of a certified copy of the priority document submitted November 17, 2000.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-15 and 17-30 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 25-30 are hereby added, and as claim 16 is hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-15 and 17-24 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected: (1) claims 15-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Girard et al.* (US 5,751,282; hereinafter “*Girard*”); (2) claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Billock et al.* (US 6,314,575; hereinafter “*Billock*”); (3) claims 1, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Billock* in view of *Girard*; (4) claims 2, 3, 5, 10, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Billock* in view of *Girard* and *Gordon et al.* (US 5,920,700; hereinafter “*Gordon*”); (5) claims 4, 6, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Billock* in view of *Girard, Gordon and Lerman et al.* (US 6,378,036; hereinafter “*Lerman*”); and (6) claims 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Girard*. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the applied references teach or suggest any comprehension that the “information with regard to the program includes statistical data with regard to viewing of the program,” as recited in independent claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 20.

As a matter of further explanation with respect to this claimed feature, Applicants direct the Examiner to exemplary FIGS. 6A, 6B and 7 of the instant Application, which illustrate Electronic Program Guides (EPGs) having both a time-axis and date-axis. In the cell of a program that has been broadcast, a viewing rate and number of requests are provided as statistical data. Thus, a user can easily understand that the program indicated in the cell has already been broadcast. Further, the statistical data helps the user determine whether or not he should request the program, based on its popularity. Consequently, these features allow the user to find a program to be requested more easily, compared to a conventional system.¹

In contrast to the claimed displayed statistical data, EPG 40 of *Girard* displays only program names, list 40 of *Billock* displays only a name and an image of a program, and *Gordon* and *Lerman* are silent with respect to any display of any data related to programs.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 15 and 20 are patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 2-6, 10-14, 17-19 and 21-24 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-15 and 17-24 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-15 and 17-24.

¹ This description is provided for the Examiner's convenience only, and is not intended to limit the scope of independent claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 20 in any respect.

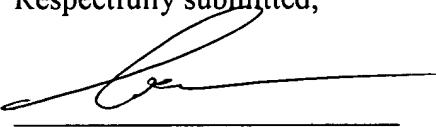
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln No. 09/714,510

Docket No. Q61857

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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